The hearts of frogs continue to beat long after all other signs of like have disappeared. The vagi of frogs poisoned with gleditschin still retain their inhibitory action on the heart. The first symptom produced in frogs is a state analogous to sleep. Following this, rapid abolition of reflex activity takes place, and respiration ceases. The galvanic irritability of the nerves is much diminished.

ERGOT IN SUNSTROKE.—Dr. R. F. Dedrickson reports, *Dublin Jour. of Med. Sci.*, Oct., 1878, two cases of heat apoplexy treated by him last July in Calcutta, with ice at the nucha, fluid extract of ergot internally. In one case, where the cardiac action was strong, he added three minims of tincture of aconite to the fifteen minims of ergot given every hour. A good recovery was obtained in both cases. Several less severe cases were similarly treated with success.

Dr. Dedrickson suggests that in cases where the power of swallowing is gone, the hypodermic injection of ergotine should be tried.

PILOCARPIN IN ECLAMPSIA AND AS AN OXYTOCIC.—*Centralblatt fuer Gynäkologie*, Nov. 15. Dr. E. Bidder, St. Petersburg, records two cases of eclampsia in which pilocarpin was repeatedly used, giving little relief or any to the convulsions, and producing no uterine contraction. Dr. E. Wellponet, St. Petersburg, also records a case in which the most careful and repeated employment of pilocarpin in large doses, failed to induce labor, though it produced the physiological effects of jaborandi. (*Edinburgh Medical Journal*, Sept., 1878.)

THE THERAPEUTICAL ACTION OF GELSEMIUM.—Professor Massini, of Basle, has published a small pamphlet giving an account of eighty cases of neuralgia of the trigeminus, treated by full doses of the tincture of gelsemium. He prefaces his remarks with a brief description of the physiological action of the drug. Redness of the conjunctiva, pain in the eyelids, contraction of the pupil, double vision and giddiness, are the symptoms which generally follow the administration of moderate doses. When the dose is increased, slight ptosis, dilatation of the pupil, gaping, languor, and pain in the limbs are the usual results. The respiration is not affected. In frogs, on the other hand, a large dose produces paralysis of the respiratory muscles, the heart's action remaining unchanged. In cases of neuralgia of the trigeminus, Dr. Massini gives twenty minims of the tincture every half hour up to three doses, and he finds that the first dose usually affords relief, and that the pain rapidly subsides after a second or third dose has been taken. He has never found it necessary to exceed sixty minims, and only in one case did this quantity produce unpleasant head symptoms. The cases in which the remedy produces most benefit are those of simple rheumatic neuralgia of the alveolar branches of the trigeminus; in those it rarely fails. It also sometimes relieves the pain remaining after the stopping of a carious tooth. Where there is any inflammatory affection of the bone or periosteum no good can be expected from the remedy. The medicine may, if necessary, be repeated several days in succession, the active principle rapidly passing off by the kidneys. (*Medical Examiner*, August, 1878.) (*Edinburgh Medical Journal*, Sept., 1878.)

THE ANTAGONISM BETWEEN ALCOHOL AND STRYCHNIA.—Dr. Stacchini, from observing some cases where the administration of alcohol seemed to be of service in arresting the action of strychnia, was led to investigate the question whether there was any real antagonism between them: he experimented on frogs, Guinea-pigs, and dogs. His results were essentially negative ; he found that alcohol cannot be regarded as antagonistic to strychnia. Alcohol, nevertheless, produces diminution in the violence of the convulsion, and retards the access of death under circumstances that would otherwise prove fatal. Animals die after the lapse of a longer or shorter period, notwithstanding the absorption of a large amount of alcohol, if the doses of strychnia have been sufficiently considerable. Alcohol is, perhaps, the least dangerous of the remedies that are used in strychnia-poisoning, its own action, either injected in a diluted form, or injected subcutaneously, is certainly less dangerous than that of chloral introduced in the same way. A fatal dose is not interfered with by strychnia, nor does strychnia seem to modify the inebriating effects of alcohol. If alcohol and strychnia are given together in an absolutely fatal dose, the animal dies, presenting the combined symptoms of both. (*Gazetta Med. Ital. Imparziale*, Nov. 9, 1878.) (*Practitioner*, Nov., 1878.)

TREATMENT OF NEURALGIA BY HYPODERMIC INJECTIONS OF ERGOT.—Marino recommends the injection of from 0.15 to 0.25 gr. dissolved in six grains of distilled water. This may be repeated once or twice, though perhaps not more than six times, and acted well in certain forms of neuralgic pains, especially in tic douloureux. It appears to act less favorably in sciatica. (*Imparziale*, No. 8, 1878.) (*Practitioner*, Nov., 1878.)

CEREBRAL ELECTRIZATION.—We find in the *Gaz. des Hopitaux*, 1878, No. 119, an abstract of a paper read before the French Association for the Advancement of Sciences, last year by M. Letourneau, giving the results of his clinical experience in electrization of the brain in various mental disorders. He first undertook a series of experiments on animals, on the vaso-motor nerves of the head. The most noteworthy result was the ascertainment of the fact that electrization of the superior cervical ganglion produced constriction of the retinal vessels. This was already observed in man, and M. Letourneau had himself noticed it in a case he was treating for choroiditis. Deeming that the condition of the retinal circulation was an index of that of the brain, he concluded that the vertigo produced by passing an electric current through the head was due to narrowing of the cerebral vessels and con-